

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION commending the First Aid Company of the Baldwin Fire Department upon the occasion of celebrating the 75th Anniversary of its founding, on June 4, 2013

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to recognize and pay tribute to those volunteer organizations within the State of New York that provide vital emergency medical rescue services; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to commend the First Aid Company of the Baldwin Fire Department upon the occasion of celebrating the 75th Anniversary of its founding; and

WHEREAS, The loyal and dedicated members of the First Aid Company of the Baldwin Fire Department will celebrate this milestone at its Company Meeting on Tuesday, June 4, 2013; and

WHEREAS, While the primary function of the First Aid Company is responding to medical calls in the community of Baldwin, New York, these courageous volunteers also include firefighting, water rescue, and rehab as part of their duties; and

WHEREAS, The First Aid Company of the Baldwin Fire Department began as a unit of Hose Company No. 2 on May 8, 1933; Francis Musso, Claude Noon, and Harold Hancox were appointed members of the new rescue squad; and

WHEREAS, Until 1938, the First Aid Rescue Squad was made up of volunteer firemen attached to Hose Company No. 2; on May 15, 1938, the unit became a separate Rescue Company of the Department and had elected as officers Captain Francis Musso, Lieutenant Arthur Hults, Secretary Richard Demerest, and Treasurer Charles Brunner; and

WHEREAS, Over the last 75 years, the First Aid Company of the Baldwin Fire Department has grown and evolved with the needs of its community, expanding its equipment from a used, makeshift rescue vehicle to two sophisticated cardiac-equipped ambulances and a heavy rescue truck, as well enhancing the dedication and skill of its members with training in cutting edge life-saving methods; and

WHEREAS, At its founding the First Aid Company averaged 16 yearly rescue calls; today it responds to over 1,500 alarms each year; and

WHEREAS, Baldwin's First Aid Unit has made outstanding contributions in countless hours of community service and rendering aid and assistance; and

WHEREAS, Their unparalleled dedication has also manifested as leadership; many members of the First Aid Company have risen from the ranks of firefighter to become Lieutenants and Captains, several have reached the highest office, Chief of Department, and three members of the Company, the late Henry Wright, the late Roy Eckels, and Joseph C. Koch, have served the community as Fire Commissioners; and

WHEREAS, Enduring much in their 75 years of service, the brave men and women of the First Aid Company most recently have been on the front line of duty in response to Super Storm Sandy's devastating impact on the Baldwin community; and

WHEREAS, Volunteer emergency medical service members are an important part of the safety net of America's healthcare system, and an integral part of our Nation's efforts to combat the impact of disasters; they provide life-saving care to those in need, 24 hours a day, seven days a week; and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body cannot express sufficient gratitude to those devoted individuals who recognize that the preservation of life is a sacred responsibility and who make that responsibility their own by serving as volunteers; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commend the First Aid Company of the Baldwin Fire Department upon the

occasion of celebrating the 75th Anniversary of its founding; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to the First Aid Company of the Baldwin Fire Department.